

## BOOK REVIEWS

**HUNTERDON MEDICAL CENTER. The Story of One Approach to Rural Medical Care.** R. E. Trussell, Executive Officer, Columbia University School of Public Health and Administrative Medicine, New York. 236 pp. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass.; S. J. Reginald Saunders and Company Limited, Toronto, 1955. \$4.15.

It may come as a surprise to medical readers in Canada that in a rural county of New Jersey there has been organized a community hospital staffed by 14 full-time surgical and medical specialists who work hand-in-hand with the general practitioners in the surrounding area. In 1953, after some seven years of planning, the Hunterdon Medical Center, an institution with 100 beds and many outpatient service facilities, came to life in this county of 40,000 people.

Dr. Trussell's well-written book tells the story of the background, organizational structure, mode of operation, and problems of this courageous development, supported by the Commonwealth Fund and based on the advice of a score of the most enlightened thinkers in administrative medicine in the United States. The support of the community through a difficult birth process is vividly described. The negotiations with local physicians were painstaking and, after a period of suspicion, resulted in almost complete favour for the experiment. The relationships maintained with other voluntary agencies in the community, as well as the State Department of Health, were a testimony to the concept—often expressed and seldom executed—of the hospital's serving as a community health centre.

The Hunterdon Medical Center aims to provide a physical foundation for comprehensive health service. It maintains an organic connection with a university school of medicine, through the salaried specialists who have teaching appointments. The outpatient department provides not only general services for low-income patients, but also diagnostic work-ups for anyone, multiphasic screening, special clinics (rheumatic fever, weight control, parenthood), and emergency service. Mental health figures prominently in daily operations, such as the policy of unlimited visiting hours and, for children, a positive invitation to parents to help and even stay overnight in a cot at the child's bedside. The record, in terms of quality criteria (percentage of normal tissues, Caesarean sections, etc.), is remarkable.

The principal failure in the implementation of the original conception has been absence of a county health department, which was unfortunately rejected by a public vote. There are also weaknesses in welfare services in the county. Relations have sometimes been strained with the house staff (interns) in training, who have not previously worked with patients under private attendance. A medical society in an adjacent county has fired some brickbats. Patients sometimes complain about high costs and wish to shorten their hospital stay to save money. But considering the daring features of the program, the conflicts and headaches have been few.

In a sense, the Hunterdon Medical Center embodies the British concept of hospital care, with all services under the supervision of full-time specialists—but modified to include the participation of the "outside" general practitioner to the extent of his ability. The economic base, however, remains essentially private fees and some voluntary hospitalization insurance. Prepayment apparently plays little part in the accumulation of the fund from which specialists' salaries are paid. The book's subtitle is "the story of one approach to rural medical care", but persons familiar with the rurality of the Canadian prairies or North may question the applicability of a pattern nurtured by philanthropic support in a pleasant and prosperous garden area one hour from New York City.

In only three years, however, amazing progress has been made in putting life into concepts of integrated health service, about which much has been written on this continent. Dr. Trussell is objective in stating the deficiencies, especially in the sphere of chronic disease care. His analysis shows the skill with which, as director of the Center in its formative years, he anticipated prob-

lems and won co-operation from doctors and community. His book and the experience it describes are important contributions to the literature of social medicine and the movement toward more effective medical care.

**MARRIAGE. A Medical and Sacramental Study.** A. Keenan and J. Ryan. 337 pp. Sheed and Ward, London; Palm Publishers, Press Services Ltd., Montreal, 1955. \$3.50.

This very interesting book on marriage has been written by a Roman Catholic priest and a Catholic gynaecologist in conjunction. It is a little difficult to know to precisely what section of the public this book is directed. Its reading and understanding will require education and intelligence, though there is nothing to debar the intelligent layman from taking advantage of the information contained. The Catholic doctor may find the book of value for crystallizing his views and defining his Church's teaching on matters concerned with the medical aspects of marriage. Perhaps the work will be of even greater value to the non-Catholic doctor who finds himself practising among a Catholic population. It is difficult for him to advise his patients unless he knows what they believe or what their Church teaches them to believe. This book will give him detailed information on all the problems which he may encounter in treating his married Catholic patients.

Throughout the book there is stress on the fact that few, if any, medical problems in marriage are without their moral and spiritual aspect. For this reason, in the early parts of the book medical and moral aspects of marital problems are discussed side by side. In some parts there is a considerable amount of detail, for example in the section on ectopic pregnancy. But marriage is not to be regarded as purely a collection of problems and difficulties. It has a positive side as well, and therefore a large section of the book is devoted to the positive or sacramental aspect of marriage. Finally there are sections on sex education, premarital instruction, and adolescence.

**VIRUS DISEASES AND THE CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM.** E. Lyon, Jerusalem, Israel. 215 pp. Grune & Stratton, New York and London, 1956. \$5.75.

Involvement of the cardiovascular system by virus disease is seldom seriously considered by the practising physician. Though for many years complications have been recognized as occurring, no large-scale attempt has previously been made to collect and summarize the available data which are scattered widely through the literature. Part I comprises a brief summary of the biology of virus infections and of the effect of viruses on heart and vessels. Part II describes the lesions found in various diseases such as measles, influenza, hepatitis, and yellow fever. Because of the close relation of the rickettsia to the viruses, Part III is devoted to a discussion of the effects of these diseases on the vessels and heart. The text is occasionally marred by obscurities of expression. This is a useful compendium for anyone interested in viruses and in cardiac disease.

**RONTGENDIAGNOSTIK DES HUFTGELENKS (Radiological Diagnosis of the Hip Joint).** R. Glauner, Chief Doctor of Radiology, Mary Hospital, Stuttgart, West Germany, and W. Marquardt, Stuttgart. 168 pp. Illust. Georg Thieme Company, Stuttgart; Intercontinental Medical Book Corporation, New York, 1956. \$13.60.

This is one of the supplements to the German journal, *Fortschritte auf dem Gebiete der Röntgenstrahlen*. Glauner and Marquardt have written it with two purposes in mind. In the first place they consider that the radiological manifestations of diseases in the hip joint are difficult to differentiate and they have therefore provided an atlas of several hundred typical roentgenograms. In the second place they use the hip joint to show examples of typical bone and joint lesions. The text is brief, the chief importance of the book being the reproductions of roentgenograms.

(Continued on page 790)

**CAUSAL FACTORS IN CANCER OF THE LUNG.** C. V. Weller, Professor of Pathology, Medical School, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. 113 pp. Illust. Charles C Thomas, Springfield, Ill.; The Ryerson Press, Toronto, 1956. \$3.25.

This is a very careful monograph on the etiological factors in bronchogenic carcinoma.

The author first discusses the general considerations of bronchogenic carcinoma, symptomatology, and pathological classifications. Then he gives a review of the general incidence of the disease with his considered opinion that there is a true increase in the incidence. The reasons for this opinion he discusses quite fully, and very reasonably.

From the point of view of etiology, he divides the causes into two groups: the intrinsic, originating in the germ plasm of the individual, and the extrinsic, brought to bear upon the living organism from outside.

Following a general discussion of the intrinsic causes of disease, he feels that bronchogenic carcinoma gives no evidence of any potent, specific, intrinsic factor. On the extrinsic side, he reviews very fully the historical aspects and the possible factors, such as cobalt, nickel, bismuth, and arsenic, and the more recent ionizing radiations, the results from which have not been finally estimated yet.

His conclusion in this regard is that no one agent has satisfied critical studies as the causative agent, and that multiple factors are likely to be of greater interest.

He then reviews the various methods of investigation that have been used in an attempt to find one or more causative factors and concludes with a very complete discussion of the effect of tobacco smoking on bronchogenic carcinoma.

On the whole, this is a very complete and satisfactory review of what is known up to the present of the etiology of bronchogenic carcinoma, and it impresses one with the feeling that a great deal more must be done in the way of investigation before a satisfactory solution is apparent.

**ALCOHOLISM AS A MEDICAL PROBLEM.** Edited by H. D. Kruse. 102 pp. Paul B. Hoeber, Inc., Medical Book Department of Harper & Brothers, New York, 1956. \$3.00.

At this conference, held in 1954, a number of participants presented papers on alcoholism, discussing epidemiology, etiology, natural history and treatment. Papers on etiology approached the problem from organic psychodynamics, behaviourist, and sociological points of view. The present book comprises these papers and the ensuing discussion.

This report will be of interest to those active in the field of alcoholism. While bringing little in the way of new information, it brings together on paper the viewpoints of many persons who have devoted much of their recent years to the study of the alcoholic. Unfortunately, like many reports of conferences, it does not have value as a complete or all-inclusive document. Most of the topics have necessarily been treated rather superficially, yet at the same time there tends to be some overlap as different authors attempt to find the common ground of their many approaches. As a result, one does not see this volume as having use as a general guide, reference or text. The papers are competent and readable, however, and may well whet the appetite of readers who encounter the alcoholic in their practices.

**PROGRAMS ON ALCOHOLISM RESEARCH, TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.** 36 pp. 3rd ed. Licensed Beverage Industries, Inc., New York, 1956.

This publication is justified by the fact that 32 states and the District of Columbia, in the United States, and five provinces in Canada, have enacted legislation to establish programs of treatment, research and education in the field of alcoholism.

The publication is divided into three sections. The first includes a directory of state programs, their facilities for treatment, and various tables of information with regard to these programs. The second part includes similar information for Canada. The third section

lists other organizations and their activities in the field.

This directory is very useful for anyone encountering this particular problem of public health. Here is a ready source of information regarding the location of various special facilities in this field.

**AN EVALUATION OF THE NEWER PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGIC AGENTS AND THEIR ROLE IN CURRENT PSYCHIATRIC PRACTICE.** Psychiatric Research Reports, 4. American Psychiatric Association Regional Research Conference, Galesburg, Ill., 1955. 129 pp. American Psychiatric Association, Washington, D.C., 1956. \$2.00.

This fourth series of reports on psychiatric research was presented at the A.P.A. Regional Research Conference at Galesburg, Illinois, in September 1955. It consists of "an evaluation of the newer psychopharmacologic agents and their role in current psychiatric practice".

The first two presentations deal with neurophysiological aspects of the new drugs. The lack of EEG specificity is stressed by Rinaldi in relation to tranquilizers and hallucinogens. Costa, discussing the problem of serotonin-evoked uterine contractions, finds that reserpine and chlorpromazine antagonize while mescaline and lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) facilitate the contraction. However, the problem of the validity of serotonin as an important link in brain function is not mentioned by the author.

Ferguson and Caster report on the value of the combination of reserpine and methyl-phenidylacetate (Ritalin). Their findings do not appear very convincing. A comparative effect of reserpine, chlorpromazine, and azacyclonol on psychotic patients is reported by Rudy *et al.* Beneficial results were obtained with each of these drugs. Hebeephreno-catatonics responded best to reserpine, and schizoaffectives to chlorpromazine. Azacyclonol was the least effective of the three drugs.

Neurophysiological responses to chlorpromazine are discussed at length by Ayd. Among these are disturbances of temperature regulation and endocrines, extrapyramidal complications, and toxic psychoses. These toxic psychoses which occurred in two cases could be controlled by Frenquel. These complications occur early in the treatment, and are mostly mild. Goldman reaches similar conclusions.

Masserman and Pechtel, in a final report, discuss the effects of various drugs on animal behaviour. They maintain that "it is impossible to state the effects of any drug on any organism without considering the latter's genetic characteristics, past experiences, biologic status, and perceptions about, motivations toward and evaluation of its current physical and social milieu". An important factor in the action of any drug is the integrity of CNS. This leads to the conclusion that the initial reports on the effects of a drug may be misleading because the selected patients are those subjected previously to all kinds of treatments and are deteriorated. The authors find that the over-all neurosis-relieving capacity of barbiturates and alcohol is much greater than reserpine and chlorpromazine in animals.

The reports are closed by a round-table discussion, with emphasis on the improvement of methodology in pharmacotherapy.

**DIE PFLEGE DES GESUNDEN UND DES KRANKEN KINDES** (Care of the Child in Health and Disease). W. Catel, Director, University Children's Hospital, Kiel, West Germany. 655 pp. Illust. 5th ed., revised. Georg Thieme Company, Stuttgart; Intercontinental Medical Book Corporation, New York, 1956. \$10.00.

This book is intended as a complete textbook of paediatrics for paediatric nurses. It is used extensively in Germany and contains not only a full account of the care of the healthy and sick child, but also the elementary anatomy and physiology necessary to its understanding. The book originally represented the care of children as practised at the Leipzig Paediatric Clinic, and the latest fifth edition has been brought up to date and includes new accounts of, for example, the care of the premature, vitamins and inoculations. The style is clear and direct and the book is well illustrated and produced.